Civil Penalties Program

The goal of the BSEE OCS Civil Penalties Program is to ensure safe and environmentally sound operations on the Outer Continental Shelf. Through the pursuit, assessment, and collection of civil penalties the program is designed to encourage compliance with the Outer Continental Shelf Lands Act (OCSLA) and BSEE's implementing regulations.

2014 Civil Penalties Summary Penalties Paid through the Calendar Year of 2014

(1/1/2014 - 12/31/2014)

Name of Violator and Case No.	Violation and Date(s)	Penalty Paid and Date Paid	Regulation(s) Violated 30 CFR)
Linder Oil Company (Production Services Network) G-2009-001	During the course of a BSEE inspection the shutdown valve (SDV), for the fuel gas to the main generator, was bypassed. It was also discovered that Linder was discharging produced water from the production separator into the containment skid. Oct. 25- Oct. 28, 2008 Oct. 2 – Oct. 28, 2008	\$150,000* 6/20/14 12/24/14 *Note: Represents partial payments pursuant to a Settlement Agreement that also addressed Linder's decommissi oning obligations. Linder owed a total penalty of \$500,000. Linder has now paid a total of \$500,000.	250.803 250.803(a)
Anadarko Petroleum Corporation (Ensco Offshore	During a BSEE incident investigation, it was discovered that Anardarko failed to develop and use a	\$70,000 10/10/14	
Co.) G-2012-030	management system for operation of the subsea BOP system, which includes procedures for prevention of accidental or unplanned disconnects of the system. It was also found that the driller's		250.401 250.442

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	energized BOP panel was accessed with ongoing wireline operations in the well bore. No JSA had been developed and no Permit to Work had been issued because appropriate personnel were not aware of the action. Dec. 8, 2011 - Feb.19, 2012 Feb. 19, 2012		
Apache Corporation	During the course of a BSEE investigation, it	\$40,000	
G-2012-038	was discovered that the swing brake on the crane was inoperative at the time of the incident. None of the individuals involved in the operation, with the exception of the crane operator, had knowledge of this deficiency. This deficiency was not covered in the JSA. Furthermore, the individuals interviewed admitted to not wearing gloves during the operation, despite the wearing of gloves being cited in the JSA.	9/26/14	
	August 12, 2012	* 40.000	250.107
Exploration, Inc.	During the course of a BSEE inspection, the SCSSV for Well A-2 and	\$40,000 5/6/2014	
(DeLeon & Associates, LLC)	A-2D was being utilized as a tubing plug. The tubing plug had not been		
G-2013-010	tested for leakage at the required 6 month interval.		
	Feb 1 – Oct 24, 2012		250.804(a)(1)
Energy Resource Technology GOM, Inc. G-2013-017	During the course of an unannounced BSEE inspection, it was discovered that the operator failed to	\$30,000 8/25/14	
G-2013-017	shut-in all wells while performing Hot-work		250.107

Mariner Energy Resources, Inc. G-2013-021	cutting operations within the Well-Bay. ERT failed to perform operations in a safe and workmanlike manner. November 26, 2012 During a BSEE incident investigation, multiple violations were discovered that led to an overpressure event in production vessels that caused a fire. Sept. 2, 2010 (8	\$295,000 11/12/14	250.107 250.107(a) 250.803(c) 250.803(b)(8)
Energy Resource Technology GOM, Inc. (Wood Group Production Services)	violations) During the course of a BSEE investigation, it was determined that a crane lifting operation led to the collapse of the crane boom, causing a fatality. August 16, 2011 (2	\$80,000 3/12/14	250.300(a)
G-2013-022 Ensco Offshore Co. G-2013-025	violations) During a BSEE incident investigation, it was discovered that Ensco failed to develop and use a management system for operation of the subsea BOP system, which includes procedures for prevention of accidental or unplanned disconnects of the system. It was also found that the driller's energized BOP panel was accessed with ongoing wireline operations in the well bore. No JSA had been developed and no Permit to Work had been issued because appropriate personnel were not aware of the action. Feb. 19, 2012 Dec. 9, 2011 – Feb. 19, 2012	\$70,000	250.401(e)

MaMaDar Oll 9	Duning a the angle of the	#05.000	
McMoRan Oil &	During the course of a	\$35,000	
Gas LLC	BSEE Investigation into	0/00/4 4	
	an incident with injury, it	9/28/14	
(Danos & Curole	was discovered that		
Marine Contractors,			
Inc.)	adhere to safety policies		
	and perform all		
G-2013-028	operations in a safe and workmanlike manner		
	during riser pipe		
	decommissioning		
	operations. They did not		
	having proper		
	management and onsite		
	supervision to address		
	safety hazards and		
	deficiencies that		
	contributed to the cause		
	of the incident.		
	March 30, 2013		250.107(a)(1)
Stone Energy	During an inspection, it	\$50,000	
Corporation	was discovered that	- /- / .	
	Stone Energy did not	8/6/14	
G-2013-029	comply with blowout		
	prevention equipment		
	requirements during the		
	well abandonment		
	operation. The well was not in a Temporarily		
	Abandoned (T&A'd)		
	status at the time of the		
	inspection. This means		
	that communication still		
	existed between the		
	hydrocarbon bearing		
	zone and the wellbore.		
	The kill line not being		
	connected as required		
	posed a threat to		
	personnel and the facility		
	in the event of a well		
	control situation.		
	March 20, 2042 (2		
	March 26, 2013 (2 violations)		250.170(c)(1)
Plack Elle Engage	,	\$20.000	250.1706(c)(5)
Black Elk Energy Offshore	During the course of a	\$30,000	
	BSEE inspection, it was	4/9/14	
Operations, LLC	discovered that the Sump Tank LSH selector valve	7/3/14	
2042 020	was in the bypass		
2013-030	position, it was not		
	flagged, nor was it being		
	monitored. The Sump		
	Tank is the containment		250.803(c)
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	system for deck drainage from all production vessel skids. Due to the safety device being in the bypass mode, the LSH would not have been able to perform its design function and shut in the facility in the event of a high level in the Sump Tank. March 11, 2013		
GOM Shelf LLC	During an inspection,	\$1,230,000	
	several violations were		
G-2013-032	discovered. Inspectors found that a test separator had been placed out of service on the instrument panel. When inspectors questioned why the vessel was out of service, they found that it had been placed out of service because it was full of sand. Inspectors returned to the structure a day later, performed a retest and audited the records. Records showed that GOM Shelf was aware of sand entering the production system for a prolonged period of time. Despite this awareness, GOM Shelf failed to take steps to sufficiently address the sand hazards. This failure placed the safety of people on the facility, as well as the environment, at risk.	11/12/14	250.802(b)
A	Feb. 1 – March 12, 2013	ФОБ ООО	250.107(a)(1)
Arena Offshore, LP (Danos & Curole Marine Contractors, Inc.)	During the course of a BSEE investigation, it was determined Arena failed to adhere to safety policies and perform all operations in a safe and workmanlike manner during riser pipe	\$35,000 8/6/14	250.107(a)
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G-2013-033	decommissioning operations. They did not having proper management and supervision to address safety hazards and deficiencies that contributed to the cause of the incident.		
	March 30, 2013		
Danos and Curole Marine Contractors, Inc. G-2013-034	During the course of a BSEE investigation, it was determined D&C failed to operate in a safe and workmanlike manner for not following their Safe Work Practice Procedures and policies, including failure to utilize Stop Work Authority, Hazard Recognition & Control, and Open Hole Safety. These failures to adhere to proper management and onsite supervision to address safety hazards and equipment deficiencies in planning, and make operational errors contributed to the cause of the injury.	\$30,000 7/30/14	
	March 30, 2013		250.107(a)(1)
Chevron U.S.A. Inc. G-2013-035	During the course of a BSEE investigation, it was discovered that the operator failed to operate in a safe and workmanlike manner by failure to utilize proper personal protective equipment per the "Corrosive Chemical Procedure" while dismantling the pump assembly. In addition, there was not a Material Safety Data Sheet for the chemical located on the facility nor was there a Job Safety Analysis or permit to work prepared	\$35,000 9/23/14	250.107(a)(1)

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	with this job task. Finally, there was no eye wash station(s) located near the temporary chemical pumping area.		
	May 21, 2013		
Black Elk Energy Offshore Operations, LLC G-2013-036	May 21, 2013 During an onsite BSEE investigation, there was a pollution incident that involved a gasket failure on the departing pipeline riser resulting in the release of liquid hydrocarbons into Gulf of Mexico waters. Also, the facility had been shut-in prior to Black Elk receiving a Performance Improvement Plan (PIP) notification letter from the BSEE Regional Director which states in part: 1) Keep all facilities that currently are in a shut-in status in such status until it provides BSEE with documentation of the corrective actions taken to safely return each facility into operational status to BSEE's satisfaction. 2) Notify the appropriate District Office at least 48 hours prior to returning these facilities	\$70,000 4/9/2014	
	to production to allow for the proper BSEE inspection. Black Elk failed to conduct operations in accordance with lease stipulations as noted in excerpts number 1&2 above from the November 21, 2012 PIP notification letter.		
	February 1, 2013 (2 violations)		250.101 250.107(a)
Mariner Energy, Inc.	During the course of a BSEE inspection, 3 violations were	\$280,000 4/4/2014	
G-2013-037	discovered where operations were not being conducted in a safe and		250.107(a)

	workmanlike manner. Violation 1 involved unsecured and improperly assembled scaffolding/ fabricated platform utilized for the decommissioning operations. BSEE inspectors observed that the scaffolding/fabricated platform was not secured to the platform and was missing some of the bracings and pins. This could have allowed the scaffolding to shift while personnel were working from the scaffolding deck. Violation No. 2 involved an open-hole/fall hazard located on the deck scaffolding. This hazard posed a potential threat of personnel falling onto the lower platform deck or into the Gulf of Mexico waters from the decking of the scaffolding. Violation No. 3) also involved an Open- hole/fall hazard located on the platform lower deck. BSEE inspectors observed personnel working on a section of the platform deck that had no hand rails presenting a threat of personnel falling into the Gulf of Mexico Waters. May 22-28, 2013		
Apache Corporation	During a BSEE incident investigation, it was discovered that the rigger	\$75,000 11/12/14	
G-2013-038	on top of Marine Portable Transfer tank unhooked the D-ring and then dropped it over the side of tank. The D-ring caught the right index finger of the employee		
	between the side of the tank and the D-ring. It was initially stated that		250.107(a)(1)

	manner which led to the discharge.		250.107
Production Inc. G-2013-041	investigation, two violations were found. One was for discharging pollutants into Gulf waters and the other was for failure to maintain equipment in a safe	11/14/14	
BP Exploration &	May 4, 2013 During the incident	\$65,000	250.107(a)(1)
2013-040	2 violations of failing to conduct operations in a safe and workmanlike manner.		
Black Elk Energy Offshore Operations, LLC	During the course of a BSEE investigation into an incident with injury, the investigators discovered	\$75,000 4/28/14	
Division 5	May 16, 2013	Ф75 000	250.107(a)(1)
Linder Oil Company G-2013-039	April 11, 2013 During a BSEE inspection of the facility's plug and abandonment operations, the inspector found an open hole that was unbarricaded on one side and accessible to personnel working on the well deck creating a fall hazard. After further review of documents, it was found that after pulling the drive pipe from the well B1, an approximately 34" diameter hole was created in the grating in the well deck area.	\$25,000 6/20/14	
	the rigger was wearing the company required high-visibility, impact resistant gloves, but later into the investigation changed his testimony to say he was not wearing any gloves at the time of the incident.		

	violations)		
W&T Offshore, Inc. G-2013-043	During the course of a BSEE inspection, it was discovered that the LSL for the Oil Treater was operating in the by-pass position, and was not flagged or monitored by personnel.	\$30,000 4/24/14	
	June 7, 2013		250.803(c)
Hercules Offshore G-2013-045	During the course of a BSEE investigation on a drilling rig, it was determined that the air hoist cable had become entangled with the hose safety clamp during the replacement of inner bushings. The bushing puller tool and air hoist hook were secured to an anchor post after the bushings were replaced. It was also observed that the driller's view of the entangled air hoist cable was obstructed by the traveling block and top drive. The downward force of the traveling block and top drive put an undetermined amount of force on the cable and anchor post, breaking the post from the rig floor allowing either the anchor post or the bushing puller tool to strike the injured party.	\$25,000 3/25/14	
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Dynamic Offshore	July 8, 2013 During the course of a	\$45,000	250.107(a)
Resources, LLC (Fieldwood Energy, LLC) G-2013-046	BSEE investigation into pollution incident, it was discovered that LSH for the Flash Tank (MBB-150) was in bypass and not flagged and monitored resulting in the operator's failure to	8/4/14	
	prevent unauthorized discharge of pollutants		250.803 250.107(a)

Arena Offshore, LP (Wood Group Production Services) G-2013-047	into offshore waters. February 27, 2013 March 2, 2013 During the incident investigation, it was found that a person was injured when a flash fire occurred while employees were conducting an acidizing operation on the float cell. The flash fire resulted in a contract employee suffering first and second degree burns on his right arm and torso.	\$40,000 8/25/14	
	July 20, 2013		250.107(a)
Express P&A G-2013-048	During a BSEE on-site inspection, multiple violations were found. Personnel were working in unsafe areas of the platform; there was unsecured and improperly assembled scaffolding; missing handrails on the platform deck as well as gaps in existing handrails.	\$84,000 10/3/14	
	May 24-28, 2013		250.107(a)
Apache Corporation G-2013-049	During the course of a BSEE onsite inspection, it was discovered that the fire and gas detection system for several portable buildings were found with the power switch in the off position rendering the system inoperable and disabling the backup battery system, leaving the building without adequate fire detection. June 24-27, 2013 (4 violations)	\$360,000 9/4/14	250.803(b)(9)(v)
Nexen Petroleum	During the course of an	\$40,000	200.000(0)(0)(0)
U.S.A. Inc. G-2013-051	inspection, BSEE	8/30/14	250.107(a)

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	I-1 and I-2 operating in the by-pass position. Also, they were not flagged or monitored by personnel.		
	September 13, 2013 (2 violations)		
Energy XXI GOM, LLC	During a BSEE onsite inspection, inspectors	\$7,248 3/5/14	
G-2013-052	observed multiple oil- leaks on the gas compressor. During a follow up inspection, the operator failed to correct multiple oil leaks on the gas compressor.	0/0/14	
	July 30-September 17, 2013		250.107
Dynamic Offshore Resources, LLC	During the incident investigation, it was found that on several occasions	\$125,000 10/7/14	
G-2013-053	the rig crew made the decision to continue to pull drill pipe out of the wellbore even while they were taking gains through the trip tank.		
	May 6 – June 6, 2013		250.456(a)
Nexen Petroleum U.S.A. Inc.	During the course of a BSEE inspection,	\$20,000 9/26/14	
G-2013-055	inspectors discovered that the helicoptor landing deck was being utilized as an extension of the platform to conduct abandonment operations without the addition of hand rails.	0,20,11	
	September 24, 2013		250.107(a)
SandRidge Energy	During an inspection, gas was observed escaping from a vent cover of a wet	\$250,000 11/14/14	
G-2013-056	oil tank, into the atmosphere, without flame arrestor protection.		
	Sept. 30 - Oct. 9, 2013		250.107
Fairways Offshore Exploration	BSEE inspector discovered a violation in which the operator was	\$32,250 10/3/14	259.301 250.804(a)(1)(i)
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G-2014-006	placed on the SSV (of Well G-9) during testing the previous day. The fusible cap had been left in place rendering the SSV inoperable and locking the valve in the open position. The SSV was not flagged, nor was		250.803(c)
W&T Offshore, Inc.	During an inspection, it was discovered that a fusible cap had been	\$60,000 11/10/14	
W&T Offshore	October 29, 2013	\$60,000	250.107
	guards/covers were not installed to protect personnel from the moving components.		
Orleans, LLC G-2014-005	inspection, it was discovered that the Coiled Tubing Unit reel gear and chain	10/20/14	
Century Exploration New	During the course of a BSEE onsite	\$20,000	. ,
	and sum pile pneumatic pump failed, and then the sump pile was used as a processing device. October 24, 2013 (3 violations)		250.300(b)(4) 250.802(b) 250.300(a)
G-2014-004	flight. Violations connected to the spill were due to the sump pile not operating automatically; the LSH		
McMoran Oil and Gas LLC	An inspection was conducted because an oil sheen was spotted during	\$85,000 11/13/14	
	failure to conduct required daily pollution inspections. Sept. 30, 2011 – Aug. 29, 2013 Dec. 7, 2012 – Aug.29, 2013		
G-2014-002	unable to provide testing records for the Well JA-2D SCSSV, being utilized as a tubing plug. In addition, the operator failed to correct a previous violation for		

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	it being monitored by personnel		
	Aug. 7 – 8, 2014		
Black Elk Energy Offshore Operations, LLC 2014-007	During an onsite inspection BSEE issued three INCs (one for each well that was flowing at the time the bypassed	\$180,000 4/28/14	
2014 007	relay was found.) BSEE Inspectors performed a function test of the emergency ESD system while the relay was in bypass, to see if the SCSSV's pressure would bleed off. During this function test, the SCSSV's control pressure did not bleed off. April 29, 2013 (3 violations)		250.803(c) 250.803
Chevron U.S.A.	During the course of a	\$25,000	
Inc.	BSEE investigation into an incident with injury,	7/6/14	
G-2014-010	Chevron failed to properly supervise construction operations after a construction worker was injured while stepping on grating that was secured with plastic zip ties.		
	December 9, 2013		250.107(a)
Hilcorp Energy GOM, LLC G-2014-013	During a BSEE onsite inspection, three INCs were issued and forwarded for civil penalty review. An inspector discovered a LSL on the L.P. Separator was in bypass mode, and the separator win in operation and not being tested or maintained. Another violation discovered was that the bottom isolation	\$75,000 8/14/14	
	valve for the LSH on the sump was in the closed position. The sump was not being tested or maintained. The third		250.803(c) 250.300(b)

Chevron U.S.A.	violation discovered was a valve on the air supply for the sump pump was in the closed position preventing its ability to automatically operate. May 24, 2012 (3 violations) During the course of an	\$160,000	
G-2014-015	inspection, BSEE Inspectors discovered an open hole next to the Lease Automatic Custody Transfer skid. The hole was not properly barricaded to prevent personnel from entering the hazardous area. September 1-9, 2013	7/30/2014	250.107
Anadarka		\$37,000	230.107
Anadarko Petroleum Corporation	During the course of a BSEE investigation involving injuries, it was discovered that a	9/23/14	
G-2014-017	composite air pressure vessel exploded causing a large fireball and flying shrapnel, followed by a venting sound. The Subsea personnel were injured, receiving second and third degree burns from the flash fire.		
	November 2, 2013		250.107(a)
SandRidge Offshore, LLC (Wood Group Production Services) G-2014-019	During the course of a BSEE investigation involving injuries, it was discovered that an employee was attempting to clear a line that was being used to transfer coolant (antifreeze) from	\$35,000 9/8/14	
22.1010	a 500 gallon poly tank to a compressor. The poly tank exploded and severely injured employee's hand.		250.107(a)
Tana Exploration Company, LLC	During the time of the inspection, BSEE Inspectors discovered	\$25,000 12/24/14	
G-2014-025	that the well		250.1706

	ahandonment operations		
	abandonment operations with the tree removed did		
	not contain a secondary		
	power source,		
	independent from the		
	primary source, with sufficient capacity to		
	close all BOP stack		
	components and hold		
	them closed. BSEE		
	Inspectors discovered the		
	pneumatic supply line		
	connected to the pneumatic driven		
	secondary pump on the		
	Hydraulic Power Unit		
	having its "Air Pump		
	Shut-off Valve" in the		
	closed or blocked position.		
	position.		
	April 18, 2014		
EPL Oil and Gas,	During the course of a	\$37,000	
Inc.	BSEE investigation into	11/13/14	
(Sporton Offshore	an incident with injury, the investigators discovered		
(Spartan Offshore Drilling, LLC)	that an employee was		
Drining, LLO)	injured while preparing		
G-2014-029	the Texas Deck to install		
	the pollution pan around		
	the BOP on the drilling rig. The section of		
	grating was not secured		
	at the time of the incident.		
	December 17, 2013		250.107(a)
Cochon	During an inspection, it	\$20,000	
Properties, LLC	was discovered that the		
0.0044.000	gas detection system in	11/19/14	
G-2014-030	the temporary living quarters was inoperable.		
	The power switch to the		
	gas detection-monitoring		
	unit was in the off		
	position.		
	May 27, 2014		250.107(a)
EnVen Energy	During a BSEE	\$438,000	
Ventures, LLC	inspection, upon review	11/21/14	
0.0044.004	of the SCSSV inspection records, the inspectors		
G-2014-031	production industrial		1
	discovered that the		
	- I		250.804(a)(1)(i)
	discovered that the		050 004/ \/\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\

	was above the maximum allowable set forth in the		
	regulations.		
	Nov. 10, 2013 – Feb. 12, 2014		
	Nov. 10, 2013 – Mar. 15, 2014		
Beta Operating Company, LLC	During the course of a BSEE investigation into	\$25,000	
P-2013-002	an incident with injury, the investigators discovered that an injured party received an electric shock of an estimated 98,000 volts at very low		
	amperage. The person was not wearing proper personal protective equipment as required by the JSA at the time of the		
E Makil	incident.	(20,000	250.107
Exxon Mobil Corporation	During the course of a BSEE investigation into an incident with injury, the	\$30,000 4/30/14	
P-2013-003	investigators discovered that an employee fell off the dragway onto the drill deck.		
	September 18, 2012		250.107(a)
Exxon Mobil Corporation	During the course of a BSEE investigation, it	\$20,000 9/12/14	
P-2014-001	was discovered that a release of H2S gas under high pressure occurred due to maintenance of an incorrect injection gas compressor fitting. A maintenance team commenced work on the wrong fitting which led to a blowout.	3/12/14	
	January 19, 2013		250.107
Beta Operating Company, LLC	During the course of a BSEE investigation, it was discovered that	\$30,000 12/15/14	
P-2014-005	crude oil was released through the flare boom. A safety device was bypassed for reasons		
	other than startup,		250.803(c)

Total Penalties Paid: 1/1/2014 - 12/31/2014		
50 Cases: \$5,170,498		

The purpose of publishing this civil penalties summary is to provide information to the public regarding OCSLA and regulatory violations of special concern in OCS operations and to provide an additional incentive for safe and environmentally sound operations.

ESD	Emergency Shut Down
INC	Incident of Non Compliance
JSA	Job Safety Analysis
LSH	Level Safety High
LSL	Level Safety Low
SCSSV	Surface Controlled Subsurface Safety Valve
SDV	Shut Down Valve
SSV	Subsurface Safety Valve